

REMARKS

Responsive to the Examiner's objection to the Abstract, a new Abstract is submitted herewith.

Claim 6 has been amended responsive to the rejection for indefiniteness as set forth in paragraph 4 of the Office Action.

The rejection of claims 1-7 for anticipation, under 35 U.S.C. 102(a), by JP 2003-174080, is respectfully traversed for the reason that the Japanese published application ("Kokai" publication - an eighteen month publication of an unexamined application) is not prior art against the present application. As evidenced by the published English language Abstract for the Japanese Kokai attached hereto, JP 2003-174080 is Applicants's own publication, directed to Applicant's own invention. The assignee's name as given on the abstract has now been changed to the Miraial Company and the difference between "Matsutori" and "Matsudori" is simply a reflection of the difficulty and consequent inconsistency in transliteration of Japanese names into English. The inventor named in the present application is the same person named as inventor in the Kokai publication. The Kokai is a publication corresponding to the present application as can be established, for example, by comparing the drawings. "By another" is implied within 35 USC 102(a). See, for example, Ex parte Lemieux, 115 USPQ 148 (P.O. Bd. of App. 1957).

The rejection of claims 1-3 for anticipation by Bonora et al is also traversed. Bonora et al neither disclose nor suggest "an annular inner seal piece" or "an annular peripheral lip portion" as now defined by claims 1 and 3. Further, with regard to claim 3, note that Bonora et al have no flange portion of the main container body with a groove for receiving the rounded distal end of a seal piece.

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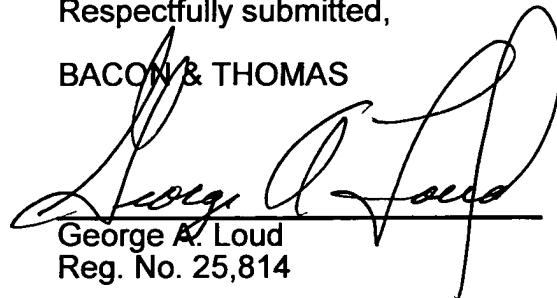
The rejection of claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(d) is respectfully traversed for the reason that the Japanese Kokai publication is not "patent". See MPEP 2135.01 III B and Ex parte Fujishiro, 199 USPQ 36 (P.O. Bd. App. 1977) cited therein.

The rejections of claims 6 and 7 for obviousness over Bonora et al in view of Ejima et al and Fujimori et al, respectively, are traversed for the reasons that claims 6 and 7 depend from claim 1 and, even if Bonora et al were to be modified in view of Ejima et al or Fujimori et al the resulting structure would still lack the features recited by claim 1 distinguishing Bonora et al as noted above.

In conclusion, it is respectfully requested that the examiner reconsider the rejections of record in view of the present amendments and the foregoing comments.

Respectfully submitted,

BACON & THOMAS

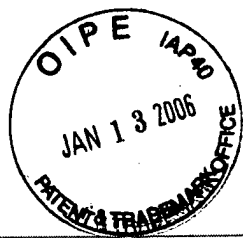
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George A. Loud", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with large, flowing loops.

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## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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(21)Application number : 2001-370235 (71)Applicant : KAKIZAKI MANUFACTURING CO LTD  
 (22)Date of filing : 04.12.2001 (72)Inventor : MATSUDORI CHIAKI

## (54) CONTAINER FOR HOUSING/STORING THIN PLATE

## (57)Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To enhance sealability between a cover 4 and a container body 2, and mountability/demountability of the cover.

SOLUTION: A cover 4 is provided with a double seal mechanism 65. The double seal mechanism 65

comprises an inner seal piece 66 for hermetically sealing the inside of a container body 2 while

being held by an inner seal receiving part 15 and a seal pressing part 32, and an outer seal piece

67 for hermetically sealing the abutting part of the inner seal piece 66 and the inner seal

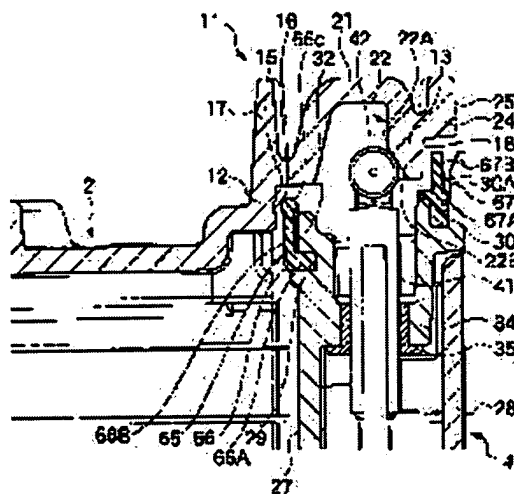
receiving part 15. An inflating part 66C being fitted in a fitting groove 16 is provided at the

forward end of the inner seal piece 66. Means 37 for securing the cover 4 comprises a latch shaft

41 projecting linearly and retractively from the cover 4, a latch roller 42 fixed to the forward

end of the latch shaft 41, and a crank mechanism 39 for projecting the cover 4 retractively from

the cover 4 through rotation. On the container body 2 side, a plane 22B for drawing the cover 4 to the container body 2 side is provided.



## LEGAL STATUS

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